



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

8 APRIL 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fontana – Man Fatally Shot After Suspected Bank Robbery

(U) Police fatally shot a suspected bank robber who witnesses say tried to hide in plain sight at a fast-food restaurant. The alleged robbery occurred at a Bank of America located on 11510 Summit Avenue in Fontana, according to police. Witnesses told police they saw the man run into a Wendy's restaurant. Police set up a perimeter around the restaurant when the man tried to exit through the back of the building. When officers confronted him, an officer involved shooting occurred and the suspect was declared dead at the scene. No other injuries were reported.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [NBC Los Angeles](#)

(U) Los Angeles – 11 Charged with Arranging Fake Marriages, Submitting Green Card Applications

(U) Eleven Southern California residents have been charged with running a large-scale marriage fraud "agency" that allegedly arranged hundreds of sham marriages in an attempt to circumvent immigration laws, Department of Justice officials announced. Eight of the 11 defendants were arrested in California. The agency allegedly prepared and submitted false petitions, applications and other documents to substantiate the fake marriage and secure clients' immigration statuses for a fee of between \$20,000 to \$30,000.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [KTLA](#)

(U) Menlo Park – Russian-Backed Hackers Broke into Facebook Accounts of Ukrainian Military Officials

(U) A group of hackers with ties to the Belarusian government broke into the Facebook accounts of Ukrainian military officials and posted videos calling on the Ukrainian army to surrender. According to Facebook's parent company, Meta, the posts appeared as if they were coming from the legitimate account owners. The group of hackers, known in the security industry as Ghostwriter, typically targets victims by compromising their email addresses and using them to gain access to social media accounts.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [CBS News](#)

(U) Sacramento – Legislative Hearing Disrupted by Animal Rights Organizer

(U) A legislative hearing was disrupted when an animal rights organizer glued her hand to a table and refused to leave. The Assembly Agriculture Committee met to vote on various pieces of legislation. Carla Cabral, an organizer with the animal rights group Direct Action Everywhere, wanted to tell lawmakers how upset she was that they were not voting on a bill that proposed a moratorium on new factory farms. Cabral sat down and quickly applied superglue to her left hand and placed it on the table in front of her. Paramedics used WD-40 to free her hand from the table and police then escorted her from the building but did not arrest her or issue a citation.

SOURCE: 6 April 2022, [KCRA3](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Officers Encounter Group of 171 Individuals

(U) Eagle Pass – US Border Patrol agents assigned to Del Rio Sector's Eagle Pass Station encountered a

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large group of migrants after they illegally entered the United States. An Autonomous Surveillance Tower (AST) detected the group in Eagle Pass's area of responsibility. Agents responded and encountered a group of 171 migrants. The group included 112 individuals from Cuba, 24 from Venezuela, 18 from Colombia, 13 from Peru, three from Nicaragua, and one from Chile. A more comprehensive breakdown of the group highlights 74 single adult males and 19 family units and included one unaccompanied minor child.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [CBP](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Chinese National Sentenced After Pleading Guilty to Stealing Trade Secrets

(U) Washington – A Chinese national has been sentenced to 29-months in prison after pleading guilty in January to conspiring to steal trade secrets from agricultural company Monsanto to benefit the Chinese government, the US Justice Department said. Xiang Haitao, 44, who was employed by Monsanto and a subsidiary from 2008 to 2017, had pleaded guilty in Missouri federal court to one count of conspiracy to commit economic espionage.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [Reuters](#)

(U) District of Columbia – Two Men Posed as Federal Agents, Gave Gifts to USSS Agents

(U) Washington – Four members of the United States Secret Service (USSS), including one member who was on first lady Jill Biden's protective detail, were suspended after they allegedly associated with and were provided gifts from two men who are accused of pretending to be Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) agents. The two men, Arian Taherzadeh and Haider Ali, were charged with impersonating federal law enforcement officers and allegedly provided members of USSS gifts such as rent-free apartments totaling \$40,000, surveillance systems, a drone, law enforcement paraphernalia and more, court documents said. An investigation into the motivation of the accused is ongoing.

SOURCE: 6 April 2022, [ABC News](#)

(U) District of Columbia – Man Sentenced for Attempting to Provide Material Support to ISIS

(U) Washington – A California man was sentenced yesterday to 20-years in prison for attempting to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization, the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Bernard Raymond Augustine, 25, of Keyes, was convicted by a federal jury after a one-week trial in August 2021. According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, in February 2016, Augustine traveled from San Francisco to Northern Africa with the goal of joining ISIS. After arriving in Tunisia, Augustine was detained by local authorities before he could make it to ISIS-controlled territory across the border in Libya. He was returned to the United States in 2018 and prosecuted in the Eastern District of New York.

SOURCE: 6 April 2022, [DOJ](#)

(U) Texas – Suspected Pipe Bomb Found, Destroyed at Courthouse

(U) Odessa – Ector County Sheriff Mike Griffis said in a news conference that a device with bomb components was found at the Ector County Courthouse and safely destroyed by the bomb squad. Griffis said the black, two-foot-wide device was found by a courthouse employee entering the building. The device was found near an entrance. The scene has been deemed "safe" by area law enforcement, but crews will remain on the scene for a while. A team of federal investigators from the FBI and Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms (ATF) is expected to arrive soon to help with evidence recovery. Griffis said a man was seen on camera early this morning placing the device near the door. Investigators are now working to identify that suspect.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [CW39](#)

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) India – Chinese Hackers Reportedly Target India's Power Grid

(U) New Delhi – India's power sector has been targeted by hackers in a long-term operation thought to have been carried out by a state-sponsored Chinese group, a US-based private cybersecurity company detailed in a new report. Over the last several months, the Insikt Group, the threat research division of Massachusetts-based Recorded Future, said it has collected evidence that hackers targeted seven Indian state centers responsible for carrying out electrical dispatch and grid control near a border area disputed by the two nuclear neighbors.

SOURCE: 7 April 2022, [ABC News](#)

(U) Israel – Israeli Forces Kill Palestinian Attacker After Manhunt

(U) Tel Aviv – Israeli security forces hunted down and killed a Palestinian man who had opened fire into a crowded bar in central Tel Aviv, killing two and wounding more than ten in an attack that caused scenes of mass panic in the heart of the bustling city. It was the fourth deadly attack in Israel by Palestinians in three weeks and came at a time of heightened tensions around the start of Ramadan. Tens-of-thousands of Palestinians attended the first prayers of the Muslim holy month in Jerusalem amid a heavy Israeli security presence, with no immediate reports of unrest.

SOURCE: 8 April 2022, [AP News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

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